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**State of Connecticut**

**SENATE**

*Fourteenth District*

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Veterans' Affairs

**Testimony to the Transportation Committee**

**Senate Bill 698 "An Act Authorizing Bonds Of The State For The Purpose Of Installing Safety Signs and Signals To Warn Tractor-Trailer Operators Of Low Bridges And Improvements"**

**February 4, 2013**

Good Morning Chairman Maynard, Chairman Guerrero, and distinguished members of the Transportation Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today in support of Senate Bill 698 An Act Authorizing Bonds Of The State For The Purpose Of Installing Safety Signs and Signals To Warn Tractor-Trailer Operators Of Low Bridges And Improvements.

This legislation seeks to authorize \$425,000 in bonding for the purpose of installing safety signs and signals to deter tractor-trailer collisions with low bridges. Milford has multiple bridges under thirteen feet in height that have been impacted by tractor-trailer operators who have been distracted while driving. In the past year, there have been at least three instances in which tractor trailers have collided with a downtown Milford bridge. Attached please find news articles and photos referring to the collisions. These collisions pose a threat to the safety of all drivers and require a tremendous amount of valuable city resources, as well as Metro North resources, to rectify the collision. The installation of signs and signals near low bridges is vital to the safety of the City's drivers and the security of the City's infrastructure.

I ask that the Transportation Committee consider authorizing state support to install early warning signals that will help to greatly reduce the dangerous implications of distracted driving.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

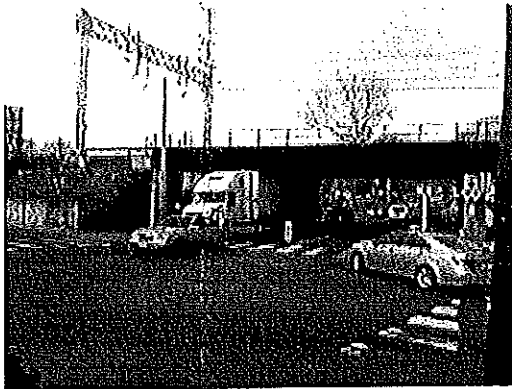
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gayle", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Senator Gayle Slossberg

# Tractor Trailer Hits River Street Bridge ... Again

Other items on this week's Facebook highlight reel include news from The Get in Touch Foundation and a discussion about how much to pay a babysitter.

- By Gary Jeanfaivre
- Email the author
- March 27, 2012



Credit Kevin Staggs

Upload Photos and Videos

[http://milford.patch.com/articles/tractor-trailer-hits-river-street-bridge-again/media\\_attachments/edit?upload\\_started=1359951351article\[new\\_asset\\_attachment\\_attributes\]\[user\\_id\]new\\_asset\\_attachment\\_attributes](http://milford.patch.com/articles/tractor-trailer-hits-river-street-bridge-again/media_attachments/edit?upload_started=1359951351article[new_asset_attachment_attributes][user_id]new_asset_attachment_attributes)

Like this. Share that. Check in here or there. Who said what and what's the latest gossip?

It's all on Facebook but we bring it right to you - the pics, the comments, the status updates and more. If it's on the Milford Patch Facebook news feed, you'll find it here. And if you see something about Milford in your feed that we missed, let everyone know in the comments!

While this feature is all about what you have to say, we start this week's with one of our own...

## Milford Patch

Is this a familiar sight? (see pic).

## Good To Go Organics

Thanks to everyone for an amazing first few days on the highway! We had some great reactions from people excited to "finally" have the option of being able to get real food when travelling. Can't wait to see you out on the road!

### **Whole Foods Market - Milford**

Join us for free kriyalu yoga in our cafe Wednesday [March 28] at 8am! Just bring your own mat.

### **The Get In Touch Foundation**

Our FREE Daisy Wheel App has been downloaded in CROATIA and KENYA, making a total of 58 countries that know how to "Get In Touch!" App Store - Daisy Wheel

### **Downtown Milford Connecticut**

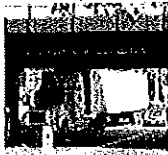
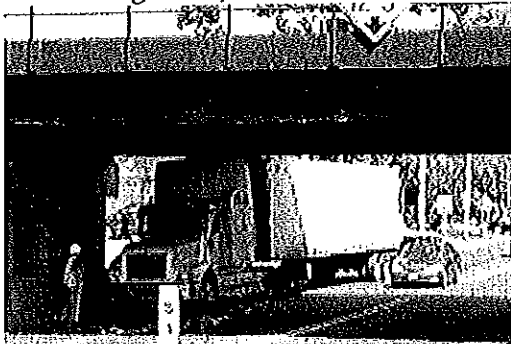
From a fan of Milford: Can someone tell me what the average teenage babysitter makes per hour in Milford? (answers ranged from \$7 to \$20 depending on the number of kids and experience/training of the babysitter. What do you think?)

*About this column: A weekly highlight of what's going on in Milford in the world of Facebook.* Related Topics: Community, Facebook, and Milford Patch Facebook

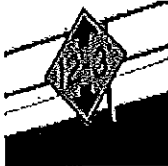
## Tractor Trailer Stuck at River Street Bridge

It is not the first time this has happened this year. It's not the second, either.

- [By Ryan Sartor](#)
- [Email the author](#)
- August 22, 2012



[Credit Ryan Sartor](#)



[Credit Ryan Sartor](#)



[Credit Ryan Sartor](#)



[Credit Ryan Sartor](#)



[Credit Ryan Sartor](#)



[Credit Ryan Sartor](#)

12' 3", that's the maximum height for passing vehicles according a sign on the River Street Bridge.

Another tractor trailer has hit the bridge, becoming stuck and slowing down traffic slightly in Downtown Milford.

Milford Police received a call at 9:53 a.m. about the incident.

Metro North confirmed that the incident has not affected traffic and that all trains are running on or close to schedule.

Hat-tip to Milford Patch contributor Priscilla Lynn who first informed us of the incident.

**Related Topics:**Bridge, River Street, Tractor Trailer, and downtown Milford

# Tractor Trailer Gets Stuck Under Railroad Overpass

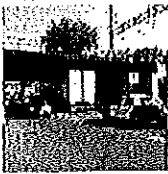
It's been removed from River Street.

By Gary Jeanfaivre

Email the author

July 13, 2011

The extrication of the tractor trailer from under the River Street railroad bridge. Credit Gary



Credit Gary Jeanfaivre



Credit Gary Jeanfaivre



Credit Gary Jeanfaivre



Credit Gary Jeanfaivre



Credit Gary Jeanfaivre



Credit Gary Jeanfaivre

A tractor trailer driver apparently misjudged the railroad overpass on River Street -- and got his rig stuck under it Wednesday afternoon. No one appeared to be injured -- and the damage seemed limited to the truck. Trains continued to move along the tracks above.

The driver, who declined to give his name, said he was hauling paper rolls from Montville and to New Jersey for U.S. Xpress Enterprises.

A tow-truck driver on the scene recalled a similar incident happened in the area last Thursday. "Another nightmare," he said.

Jim Wilson, owner of nearby Milford Photo, also recalled last week's incident as he examined the damage caused today.

"These things only happen when work gets out...rush hour," he said.

The driver was likely to be charged with failure to obey bridge height requirements, a motor vehicle infraction, police said.

The truck was cleared from the road by 5:45 p.m. Traffic was able to pass in both directions, but slowly, as debris was removed.

Milford police say Metro-North Commuter Rail Road would be investigating the incident -- and determining whether there's any damage to the bridge.

Do you think the tractor trailer driver should've known better?

## Tractor Trailer Gets Stuck Under Railroad Overpass It's been removed from River Street.

- [By Gary Jeanfaivre](#)
- [Email the author](#)
- July 13, 2011

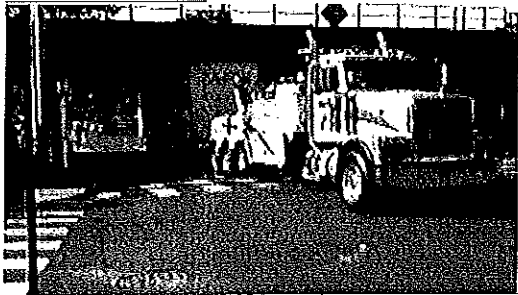
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